



# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

## COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** January 12, 2010

**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Chief's Staff, Police Department

**SUBJECT:** Agreement With The Council On Alcoholism And Drug Abuse For  
The Criminal Justice Early Identification Specialist

### RECOMMENDATION:

That Council appropriate \$47,000 in the Police Asset Forfeiture Fund from accumulated reserves to fund the Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Criminal Justice Early Identification Specialist position as part of a three-year funding agreement.

### DISCUSSION:

The Early Identification Specialist (E-ID) performs a key function in the diversion program implemented by the Santa Barbara Police Department, the Santa Barbara Municipal Court and the Sobering Center. The E-ID provides intervention and case management for individuals who have had more than five admissions to the Sobering Center within twelve months and who are identified as chronic habitual offenders. The E-ID implements a follow-up program for the offenders in which they are met at the jail or Sobering Center upon release. The objective is to encourage the offender to seek treatment and to assist the offender through the alcohol-craving period that occurs immediately following release from incarceration. The E-ID assists the Municipal Court in developing appropriate dispositions in these types of cases.

The City and the Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse first entered into this program in March of 1993 and are currently in the third year of a third three-year agreement, which expires on August 31, 2010. Annually, the program serves nearly 300 clients. In the most recent year for which statistics are available, after one year, 60% of the clients remained in recovery, 23% had no further contact and 17% relapsed.

The Asset Forfeiture Account is comprised of forfeited funds that are obtained through law enforcement investigations and arrests from convicted drug dealers. According to the California Attorney General's Annual Report on Asset Forfeiture: "The goal of asset forfeiture is to remove the profits from those that benefit from illegal drug trade." The report goes on to provide: "Asset forfeiture proceeds are used to fund education and drug abuse prevention programs." The law also permits law enforcement agencies to

use the proceeds of forfeiture to purchase safer, more effective equipment that they otherwise could not afford. Based on this, the Police Department seeks to utilize the requested funds from the available asset forfeiture account to fund the third year of the three-year agreement which funds the Criminal Justice Early Identification Specialist position.

**PREPARED BY:** Armando Martel, Police Captain

**SUBMITTED BY:** Camerino Sanchez, Police Chief

**APPROVED BY:** James Armstrong, City Administrator